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Applicants	:	Niall R. Lynam and John O. Lindahl
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Enclosures

IMPROVED VEHICULAR LIGHTING SYSTEM

This application claims priority from and incorporates by reference herein in their entireties U.S. Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/_____, filed January 7, 2002, entitled IMPROVED VEHICULAR LIGHTING SYSTEM, by Applicants John O. Lindahl and Niall R. Lynam (Attorney Docket No. DON01 P-956), U.S. Provisional Applications Ser. No. 60/263,680, filed Jan. 23, 2001 (Attorney Docket No. DON01 P-876); Ser. No. 60/271,466, filed Feb. 26, 2001 (Attorney Docket No. DON01 P-882); and Ser. No. 60/315,384, filed Aug. 28, 2001 (Attorney Docket No. DON01 P-930), and copending U.S. Utility Pat. Application Ser. No. 09/793,002, entitled VIDEO MIRROR SYSTEMS INCORPORATING AN ACCESSORY MODULE, filed Feb. 26, 2001 (Attorney Docket No. DON01 P-869).

TECHNICAL FIELD AND BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to automotive lighting, more specifically to lighted mirrors for a vehicle, such as an automobile, sports utility vehicle, truck or similar road transportation vehicle. More particularly, the present invention relates to a lighting system that incorporates at least one non-incandescent light source, such as a light emitting diode (LED) light source, including a high intensity LED light source, and especially to a vehicular lighting system for a vehicular accessory such as a lighted interior mirror assembly, a lighted exterior mirror assembly, and a lighted accessory module.

Mirror manufacturers have developed a wide variety of incandescent-based lighting products for use in mirrors. Typically, prior art lighted mirror assemblies that use incandescent lighting have a mirror case, a mirror reflector, and wiring that carries circuitry for powering the various components in the mirror assembly, including the incandescent light source, which typically comprises a filament light bulb. In some applications, a lighted mirror assembly may incorporate a carrier, such as disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 5,669,698 and 6,124,886, which are commonly assigned to Donnelly Corporation of Holland, Mich., the entire disclosures of which are herein incorporated by reference. The carrier provides a mounting surface for various electrical/electronic devices housed in the mirror assembly, including a circuit for an incandescent light source or other light sources. The mirror assembly also typically includes a reflector element and a lens, which are configured to direct